

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A raisable pedestal comprising:

an enclosed housing adapted to be fixed to a ground surface;
a guide arrangement mounted within said housing;
an inner support mounted for movement along said guide arrangement between a retracted position entirely within said housing and an extended position extending out from said housing, said inner support including an arrangement for supporting electronic components in a manner to render said electronic components accessible when said inner support extends out from said housing;

a driving arrangement for moving said inner support along said guide arrangement between said retracted and extended positions;

a precipitation sensor mounted on one of said housing and inner support, for detecting precipitation; and

a control connected with said sensor and said driving arrangement for controlling said driving arrangement to move said inner support to said retracted position when said sensor detects

precipitation in order to protect the electronic components supported by said inner support from the precipitation.

12. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 11, wherein said guide arrangement includes a plurality of guide rods extending upwardly relative to the ground surface.

13. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 12, wherein said inner support includes a shell slidably along said guide rods.

14. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 13, wherein said shell includes side walls and at least one opening in a front wall thereof for receiving the electronic components.

15. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 14, wherein said arrangement for supporting the electronic components includes a rack connected to at least one side wall of said shell adjacent said at least one opening.

16. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 13, wherein said shell includes a top plate which closes off an upper end of said enclosed housing when said inner support is in said retracted position.

17. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 16, wherein said top plate includes a seal therearound for providing a seal between said top plate and the upper end of said enclosed housing.

18. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 16, wherein said precipitation sensor is mounted to the upper end of said housing and covered by said top plate when said inner support is in said retracted position.

19. (Currently Amended) A raisable pedestal according to claim 11, wherein said driving arrangement is movable with said inner support along said guide arrangement, and further comprising a spring arrangement positioned below said inner ~~shell~~ support for providing a counter-balance to said inner support to prevent crushing of an item placed between said inner support and said housing when said inner support is moved to said retracted position.

20. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 11, wherein further comprising at least one switch for controlling said driving arrangement to move said inner support between said retracted and extended positions.

21. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 11, wherein said driving arrangement includes a piston having an extensible and retractable rod having a free end connected with said inner shell for moving said inner shell along said guide rods between said retracted and extended positions.

22. (Currently Amended) A raisable pedestal comprising:

an enclosed housing adapted to be fixed to a ground surface; a plurality of guide rods extending upwardly relative to the ground surface and mounted within said housing;

an inner support mounted for movement along said guide arrangement between a retracted position entirely within said housing and an extended position extending out from said housing, said inner support including:

a shell having side walls and at least one opening in a front wall thereof for receiving electronic components,

a rack connected to at least one side wall adjacent said at least one opening, in a manner to render said electronic components accessible when said inner support extends out from said housing,

a top plate which closes off an upper end of said enclosed housing when said inner support is in said retracted position, and

a seal at an underside of said top plate for providing a seal between said top plate and the upper end of said enclosed housing.

a driving arrangement for moving said inner support along said guide arrangement between said retracted and extended positions, said driving arrangement including a piston having an extensible and retractable rod having a free end connected with said inner shell for moving said inner shell along said guide rods between said retracted and extended positions;

a precipitation sensor mounted to an upper end of said housing for detecting precipitation and covered by said top plate when said inner support is in said retracted position;

a control connected with said sensor and said driving arrangement for controlling said driving arrangement to move said inner support to said retracted position when said sensor detects precipitation in order to protect the electronic components supported by said inner support from the precipitation; and

at least one switch for controlling said driving arrangement to move said inner support between said retracted and extended positions.

23. (Original) A raisable pedestal according to claim 22, wherein said driving arrangement is movable with said inner support along said guide arrangement, and further comprising a

spring arrangement positioned below said inner shell for providing a counter-balance to said inner support to prevent crushing of an item placed between said inner support and said housing when said inner support is moved to said retracted position.